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FOLLOWING ARE ANSWERS TO SOME OF THE QUESTIONS IN REF CABLE:

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET []

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A. GENERAL QUERIES

1. TRAILS AND POSSIBLE TRAILS CAN BE USED BY PACK ANIMALS AND PORTERS.

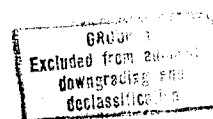
2. TO DETERMINE THE LOAD BEARING CAPABILITIES OF BRIDGES ON THE HIGHWAYS AND MAJOR ROADS WILL BE A MAJOR PROJECT CONSUMING SEVERAL WEEKS. A GENERALIZED ANSWER WILL BE OBTAINED AND FORWARDED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

B. QUERRIES REGARDING MAP SHOWING HIGHWAYS:

1. THE ROAD BEYOND THOG SALUNG (THOK JALUNG) DOES NOT GO TO TASHINGONG BUT JOINS THE ROAD CONNECTING RUDOK WITH GARTOK AT APPROX 32-36N 80-00E ABOUT 15 NM EAST OF TASHIGONG.

2. ON THE OVERLAY "MAJOR CHICOM SUPPLY ROUTES TO SINO-INDIAN BORDER" THE TERM HIGHWAY IS USED SYNONYMOUSLY FOR ROAD, I.E., A ROUTE CAPABLE OF SUPPORTING TRUCK TRAFFIC. THE ROAD OR SO CALLED HIGHWAY FROM TSETHANG TO TSONA DZONG IS DESCRIBED AS BEING LIMITED ALL WEATHER, ONLY ONE LANE, AND PROBABLY SUBJECT TO CLOSING FOR SHORT PERIODS BY FLOODS, LANDSLIDES AND SNOW, WHICH INDICATES THAT IT IS OF RATHER POOR QUALITY.

SECRET



3. THE LEGEND, ON THE REFERENCED OVERLAY IN B-2, STATE THAT THE HIGHWAYS BETWEEN PUNG-TA AND BATANG HAS BEEN UNDER CONSTRUCTION SINCE 1957 WITH COMPLETION NEVER ANNOUNCED.

ANALYSIS OF PHOTO COVERAGE, DATED JAN 63, SHOWS THAT THIS ROAD HAS BEEN COMPLETED FROM BATANG SOUTH TO CHUPALONG, WHERE A FERRY CROSSES THE YANGTZE RIVER. FROM THE FERRY TO APPROX 29-43N - 98-43E NO ROAD OR CONSTRUCTION WAS OBSERVED. ANOTHER SECTION OF THIS ROAD WAS OBSERVED FROM 29-43N - 93-43E TO THE MEKONG RIVER AT 29-37N - 98-21E WHERE OBLIQUITY AND POOR PHOTO QUALITY PRECLUDED TRACING THE ROAD FURTHER. THERE IS NO PHOTO COVERAGE BETWEEN THE MEKONG AND 29-40N - 97-58E WHERE THE ROAD IS OBSERVED AGAIN AND CAN BE TRACED TO PANG-TA (BOMBA GOMPA).

C. 1, 2, AND 3. WILL BE FORTHCOMING.

D. QUERRIES REGARDING MAP SHOWING THE ROAD ACROSS LADAKH: THE ALIGNMENT OF THIS ROAD ACROSS LADAKH IS AS FOLLOWS: FROM RUDOK THE MAIN ROAD PROCEEDS NORTH TO NYAK TSHO, ALONG ITS SOUTH AND EAST SHORES WHERE IT THEN TURNS EAST TO LUMADODMO; FROM LUMADODMO THE ROAD PROCEEDS IN THE NORTHERLY DIRECTION PASSING IMMEDIATELY WEST OF TSAGGAR TSHO AND THEN GOES NORTHWEST TO APPROX 35-00N 79-40E WHERE IT PROCEEDS SLIGHTLY WEST OF NORTH TO HAJI LANGAR.

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END OF MESSAGE